

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are pending in the application. In the Office action of February 24, 2005, claims 1-33 were made subject to a restriction requirement. In addition, many of the drawings were objected to.

Election of Claims

In response to the restriction requirement, applicants hereby elect the claims in Group I, claims 1-17, for further consideration and examination, without traverse.

Status of the Drawings

The drawings filed on October 4, 2004 were further objected to by the examiner on the grounds that they contain blank boxes and other shapes that are not widely recognized engineering symbols. The examiner identified those boxes and shapes which he found to be objectionable, and applicants have made all of the corrections required by the examiner.

FIG. 3 was further objected to on the grounds that reference numbers 302 and 306 are duplicate reference numbers for the same item. The objection should be withdrawn inasmuch as 302 refers to a substrate, and 306 refers to a non-grated surface of the substrate 302.

FIG. 24 was further objected to on the grounds that (a) reference numbers 2414 and 2418 are duplicate reference numbers for the same item; and (b) reference numbers 2416 and 2412 are duplicate reference numbers for the same item. The objection as to "(a)" should be withdrawn inasmuch as 2414 refers to a turning prism, and 2418 refers to a polarization component of a beam transmitted through the prism 2414. The objection as to "(b)" should be withdrawn inasmuch as 2412 refers to a polarization beamsplitter, and 2416 refers to a polarization component of a beam transmitted through the beamsplitter 2412.

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to various figures, as follows.

- The first sheet which contains FIG. 2 replaces the prior replacement sheet that contains FIG. 2. FIG. 2 has been changed as required by the examiner.
- The second sheet which contains FIGS. 3-5 replaces the original sheet that contains FIGS. 3-5. FIGS. 3-5 have been changed as required by the examiner.
- The third sheet which contains FIG. 6 replaces the prior replacement sheet that contains FIG. 6. FIG. 6 has been changed as required by the examiner.
- The fourth sheet which contains FIG. 8 replaces the prior replacement sheet that contains FIG. 8. FIG. 8 has been changed as required by the examiner.
- The fifth sheet which contains FIG. 20 replaces the prior replacement sheet that contains FIG. 20. FIG. 20 has been changed as required by the examiner.
- The sixth sheet which contains FIG. 21 replaces the prior replacement sheet that contains FIG. 21. FIG. 21 has been changed as required by the examiner.
- The seventh sheet which contains FIGS. 22 and 29 replaces the prior replacement sheet that contains FIGS. 22 and 29. FIG. 29 has been changed as required by the examiner.
- The eighth sheet which contains FIG. 23 replaces the prior replacement sheet that contains FIG. 23. FIG. 23 has been changed as required by the examiner. In addition, the label for reference number 2330 has been repositioned.
- The ninth sheet which contains FIG. 24 replaces the prior replacement sheet that contains FIG. 24. FIG. 24 has been changed as required by the examiner. In addition, a few additional labels have been included to further improve understanding of the drawing.
- The tenth sheet which contains FIGS. 25A and 25B replaces the original sheet that contains FIGS. 25A and 25B. FIGS. 25A and 25B have been changed as required by the examiner. In addition, a few additional labels have been included to further improve understanding of the drawing.

- The eleventh sheet which contains FIG. 28 replaces the prior replacement sheet that contains FIG. 28. FIG. 28 has been changed as required by the examiner.
- The twelfth sheet which contains FIG. 30 replaces the original sheet that contains FIG. 30. FIG. 30 has been changed as required by the examiner.
- The thirteenth sheet which contains FIG. 34 replaces the prior replacement sheet that contains FIG. 34. FIG. 34 has been changed as required by the examiner.
- The fourteenth sheet which contains FIGS. 35A-35C replaces the original sheet that contains FIGS. 35A-35C. FIGS. 35A-35C have been changed as required by the examiner.
- The fifteenth sheet which contains FIGS. 36A and 36B replaces the prior replacement sheet that contains FIGS. 36A and 36B. FIGS. 36A and 36B have been changed as required by the examiner.
- The sixteenth sheet which contains FIGS. 38A and 38B replaces the prior replacement sheet that contains FIGS. 38A and 38B. FIGS. 38A and 38B have been changed as required by the examiner, except that a label for reference number 3630 was previously furnished.
- The seventeenth sheet which contains FIGS. 39 and 40 replaces the prior replacement sheet that contains FIGS. 39 and 40. FIGS. 39 and 40 have been changed as required by the examiner.

Replacement sheets containing these changes are attached in Appendix A, and annotated sheets showing these changes in red ink are attached in Appendix B.

FIGS. 25A and 25B were further objected to on the grounds that (a) reference numbers 2506 and 2502 are duplicate reference numbers for the same item; (b) reference numbers 2510, 2528 and 2508 are duplicate reference numbers for the same item; and (c) reference numbers 2552, 2510 and 2554 are duplicate reference numbers for the same item. The objection as to "(a)" should be withdrawn inasmuch as 2502 refers to a frame, and 2506 refers to a lower rail of the frame 2502. The objection as to "(b)" should be withdrawn inasmuch as 2508 refers to multiple slots, 2510 refers to multiple mounting plates that may be fitted into the slots 2508, and 2528 refers to a particular one of the plates 2510. The objection as to "(c)" should be withdrawn inasmuch as 2510 is a generic representation of the multiple mounting plates, and 2552 and 2554 refer to upper and lower edges of the generic representation.

FIG. 28 was further objected to on the grounds that reference numbers 2410 and 2412 are duplicate reference numbers for the same item. The objection should be withdrawn inasmuch as 2410 refers to a polarization separator, and 2412 refers to a polarization beamsplitter which is part of the polarization separator 2410.

In view of these changes, applicants believe that the drawings are no longer objectionable. However, should the examiner believe that any of the drawings are objectionable, he is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned to discuss the objection so there can be no ambiguity as to what corrective action would be appropriate.

*Status of Examiner's Consideration of Applicants'
Information Disclosure Statement*

The examiner's acknowledgement of all of the references cited in applicants' Information Disclosure Statement filed October 22, 2003, including the reference US 2002-0154855-A1 filed on February 21, 2001 (Rose et al., WAVELENGTH DIVISION MULTIPLEXED DEVICE) is noted with appreciation.

Conclusion

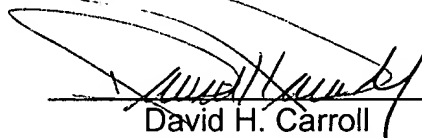
In view of the foregoing remarks, applicants believe that the application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully request favorable reconsideration and the timely issuance of a Notice of Allowance. If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact the undersigned at (952) 253-4135.

Respectfully submitted,

Altera Law Group, LLC
Customer No. 22865

Date: March 17, 2005

By:



David H. Carroll
Reg. No. 29,903
DHC/mar

APPENDIX A
Replacement Drawing Sheets

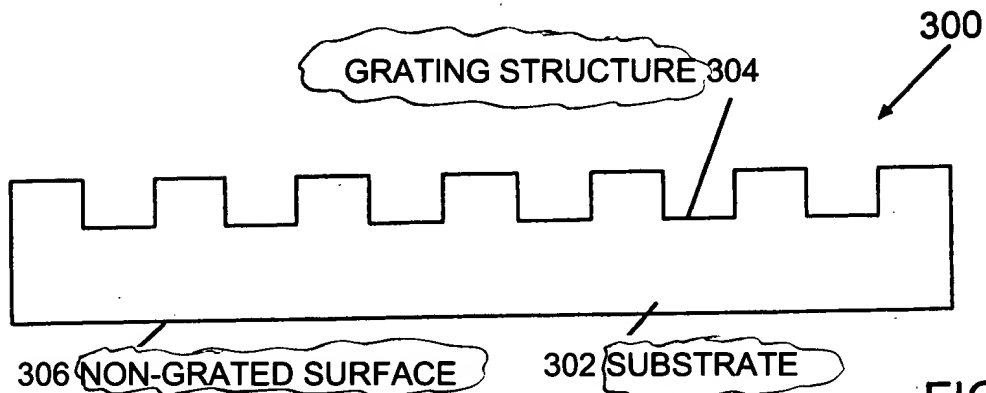


FIG. 3

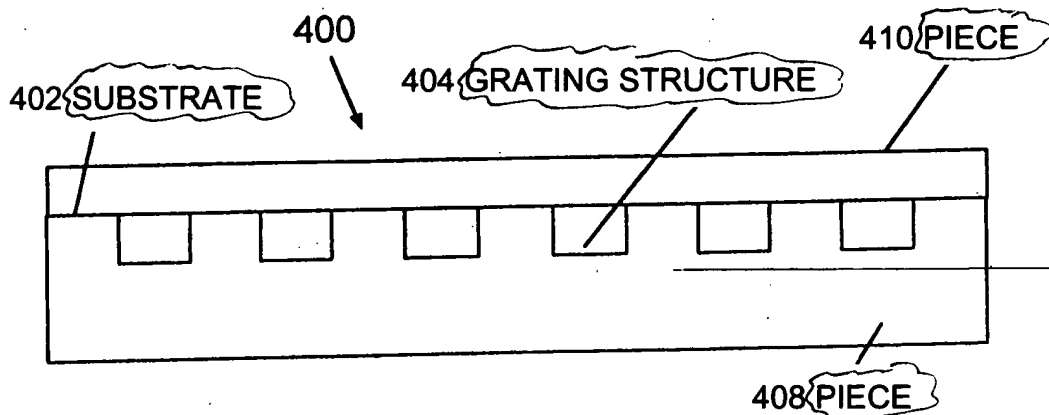


FIG. 4

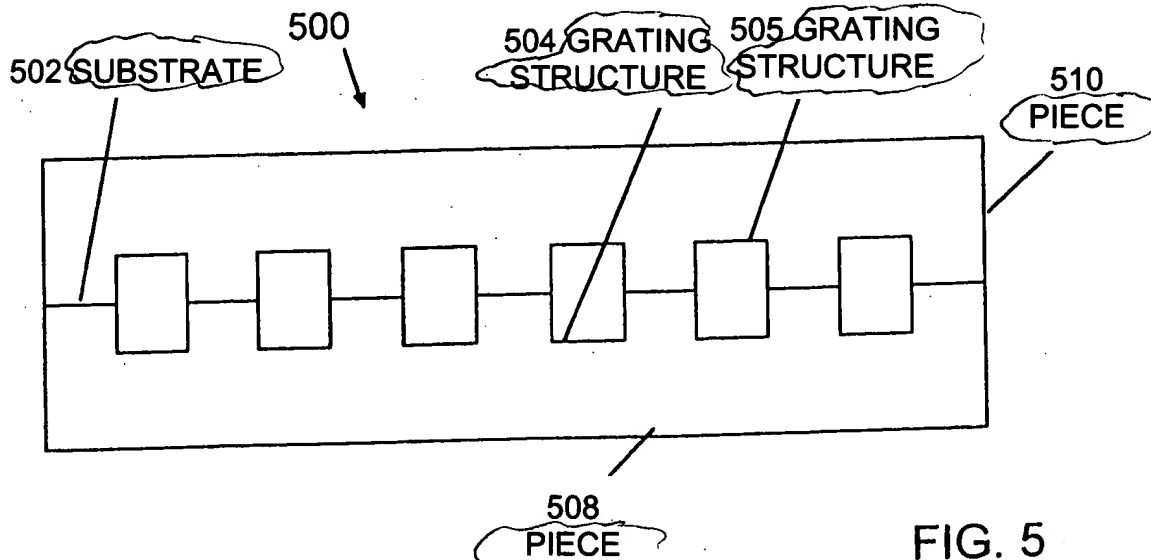


FIG. 5

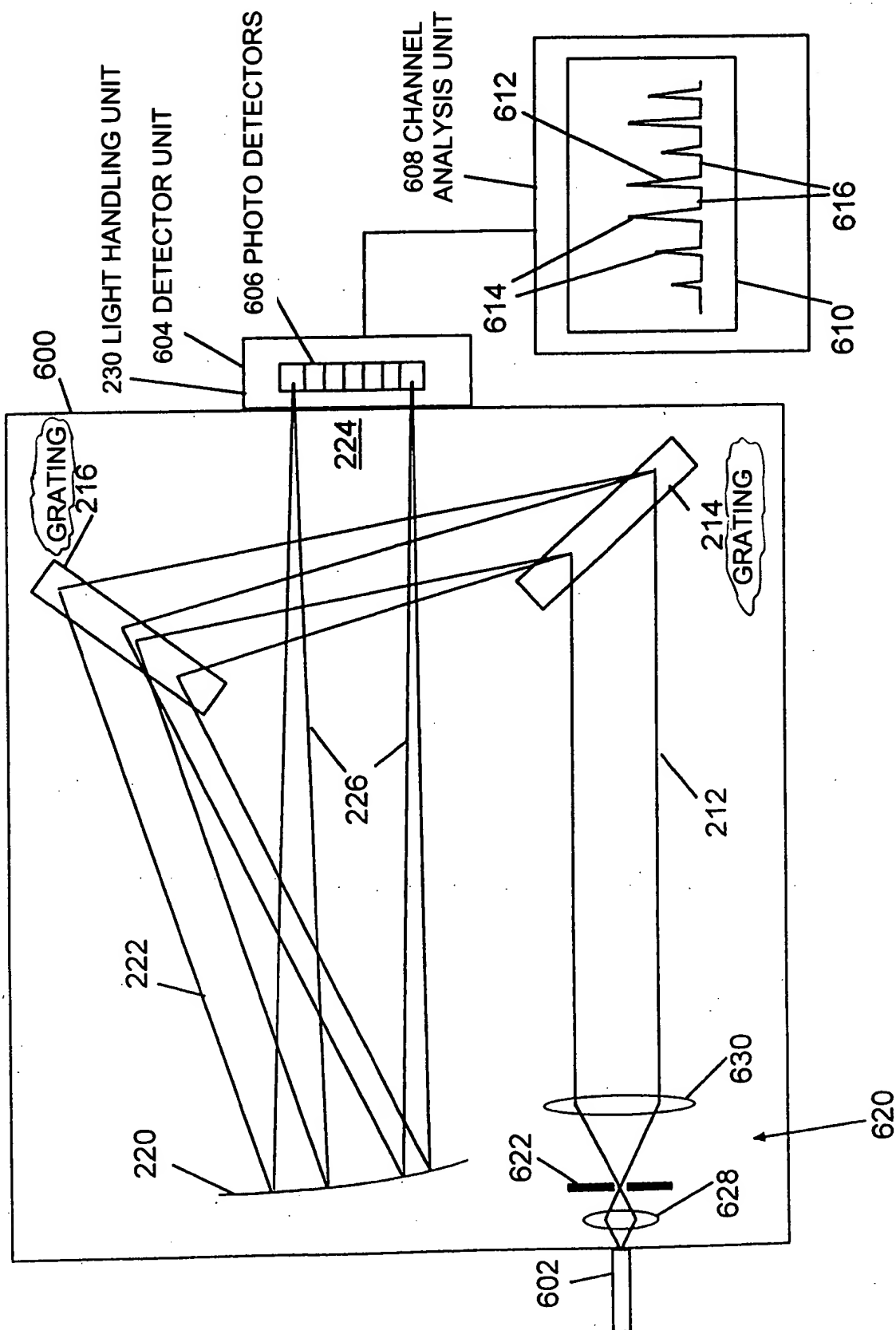
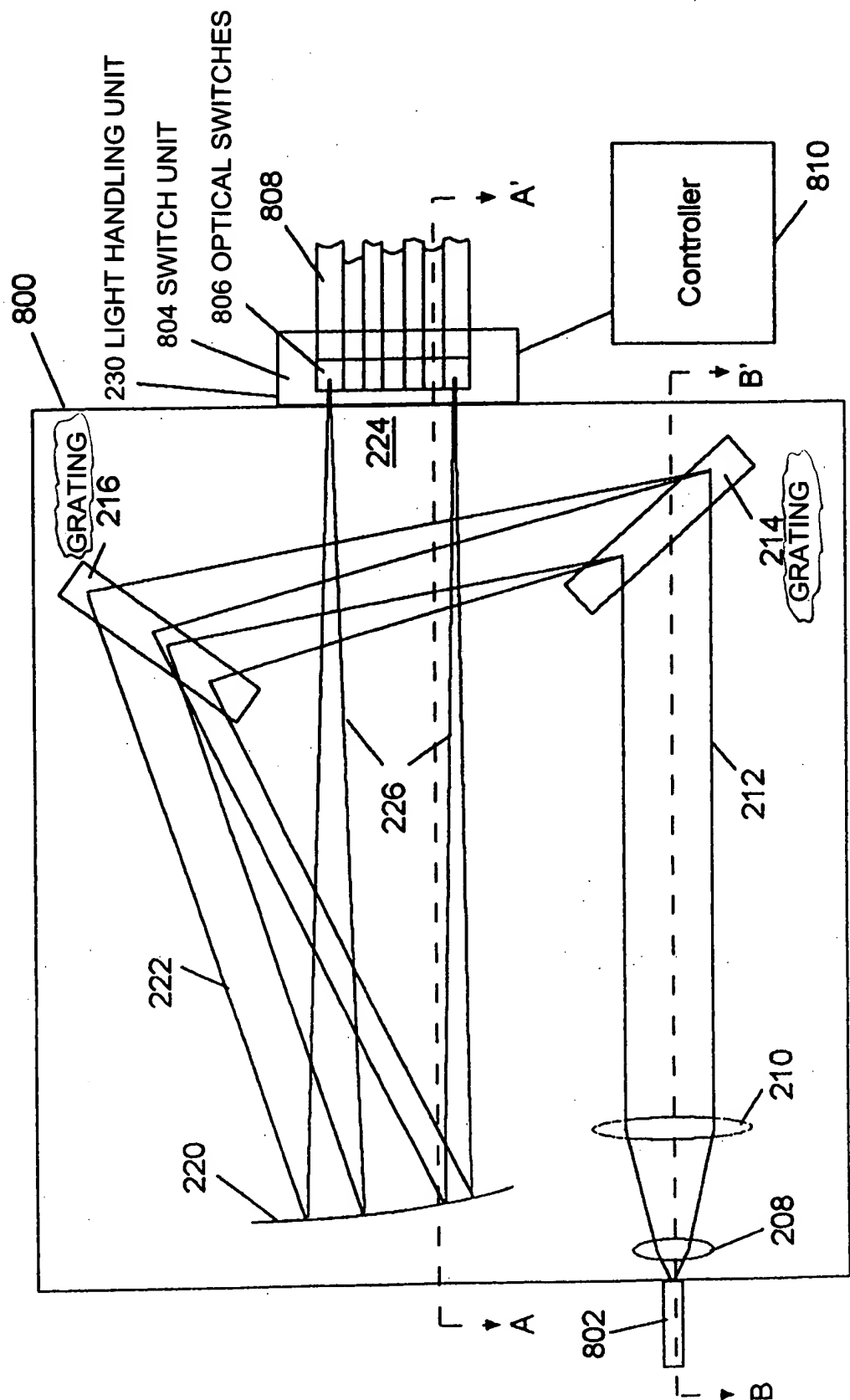


FIG. 6



8
G.
F

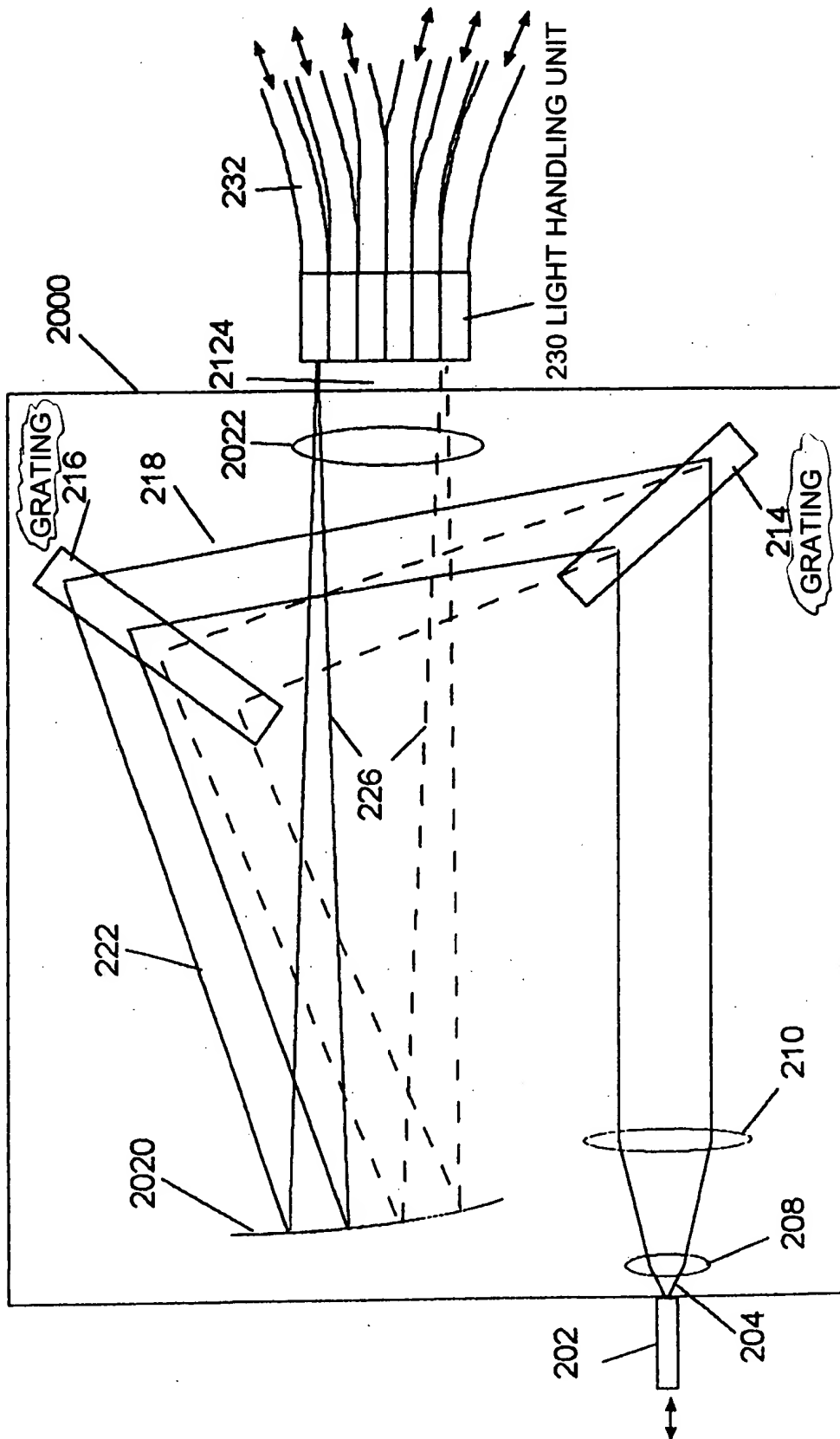


FIG. 20

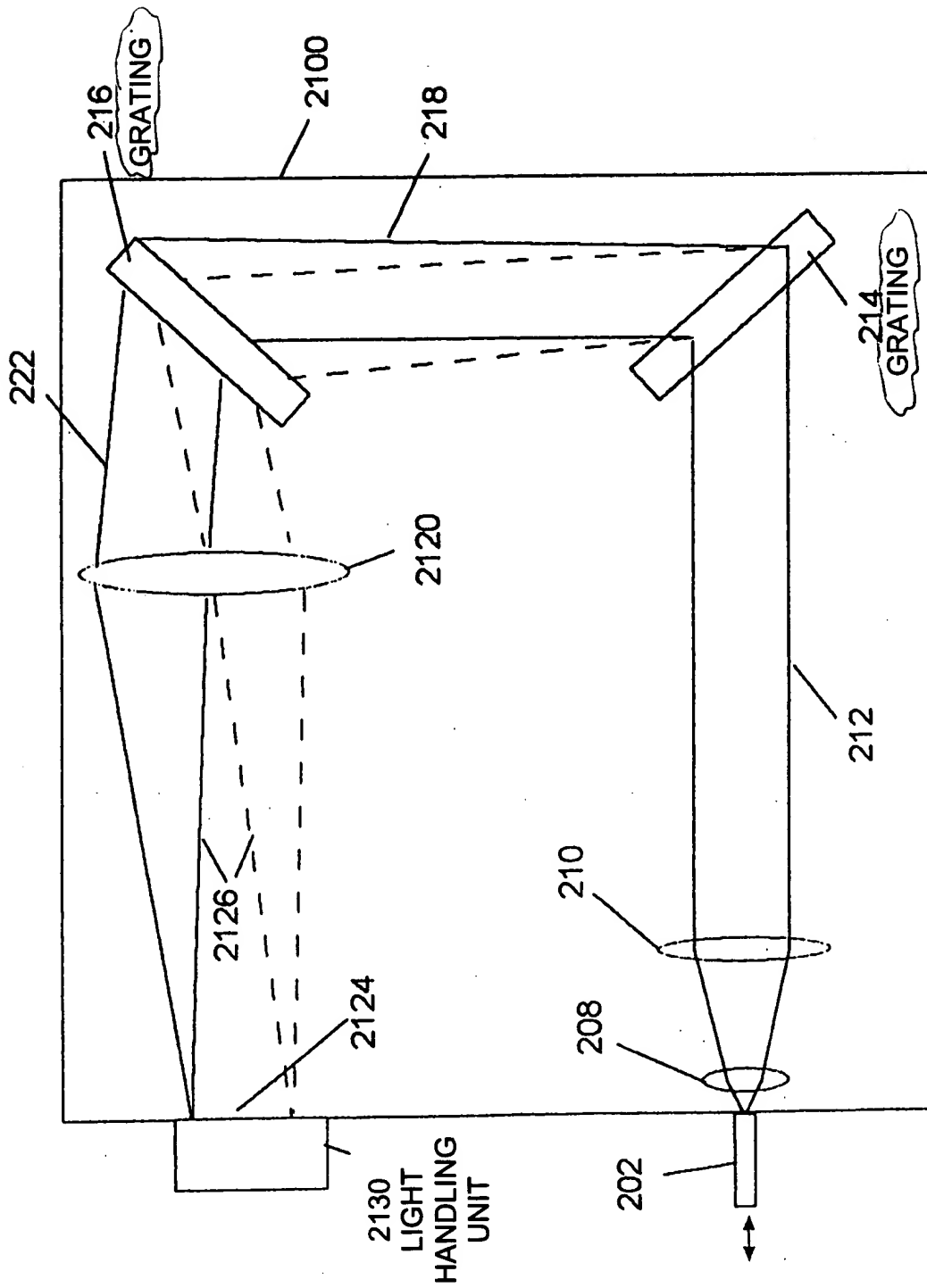


FIG. 21

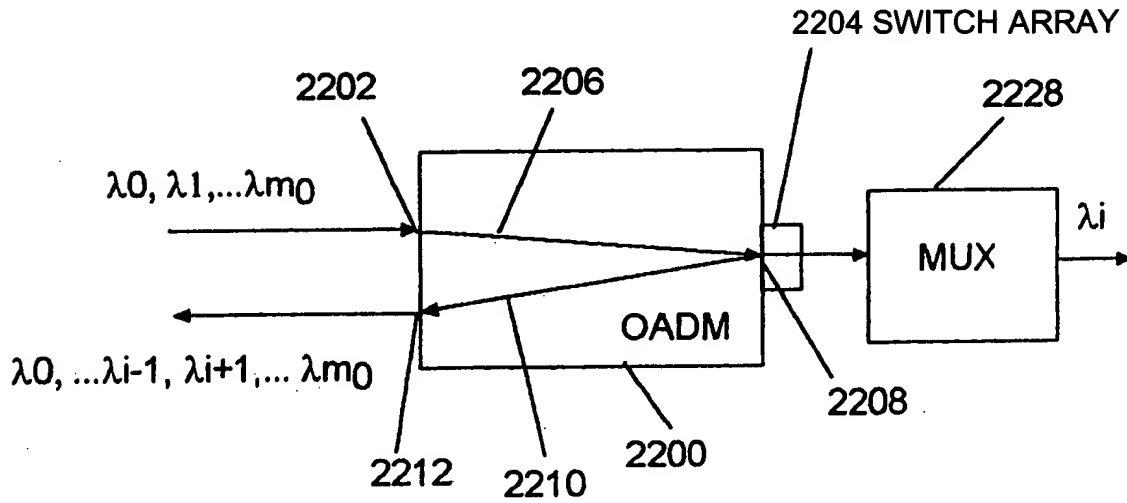


FIG. 22

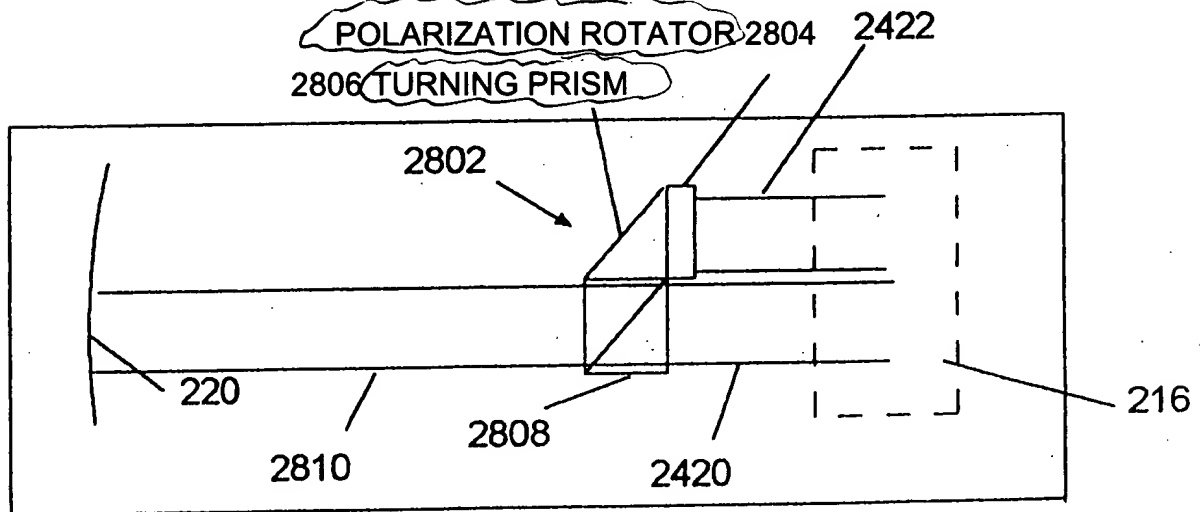
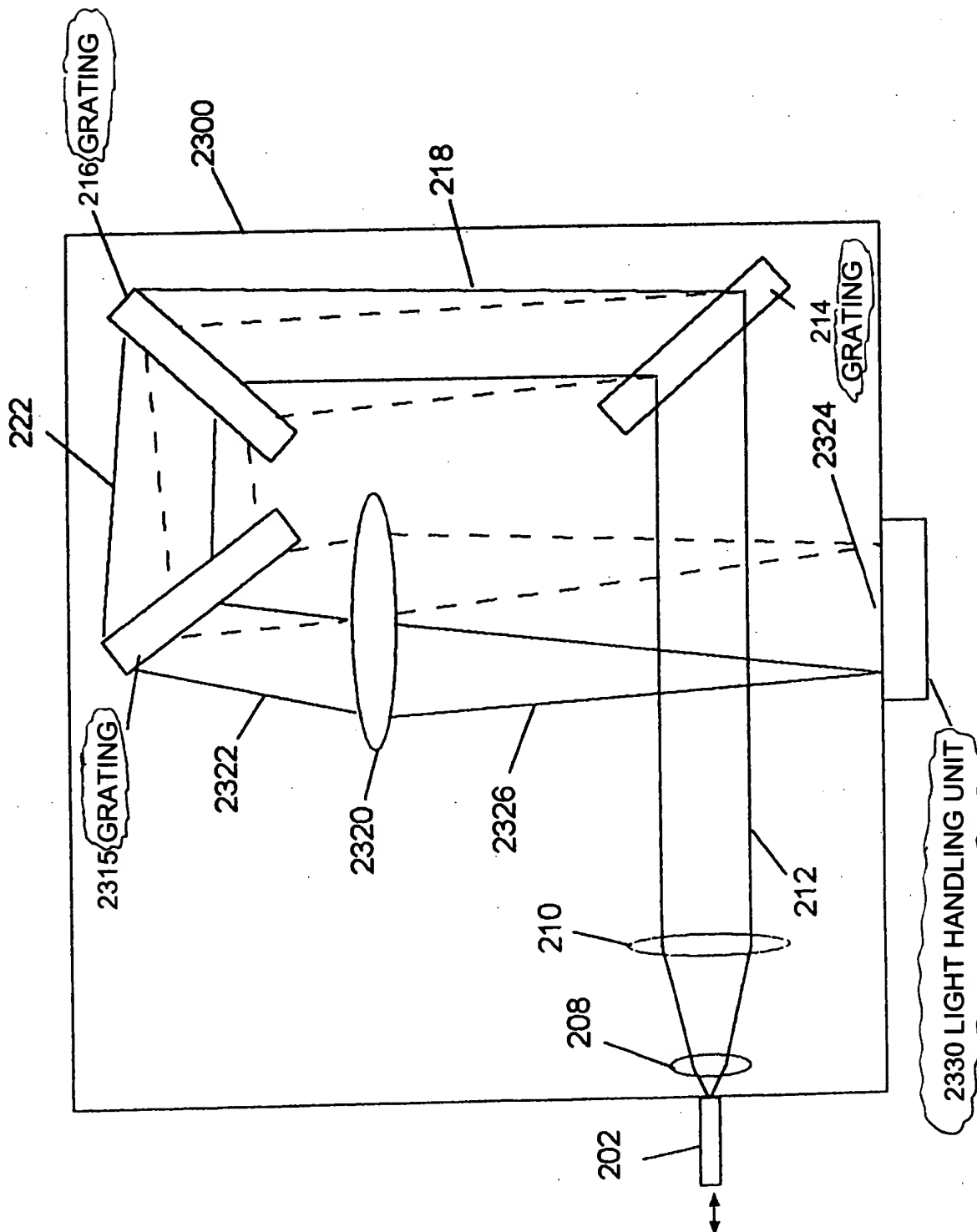


FIG. 29



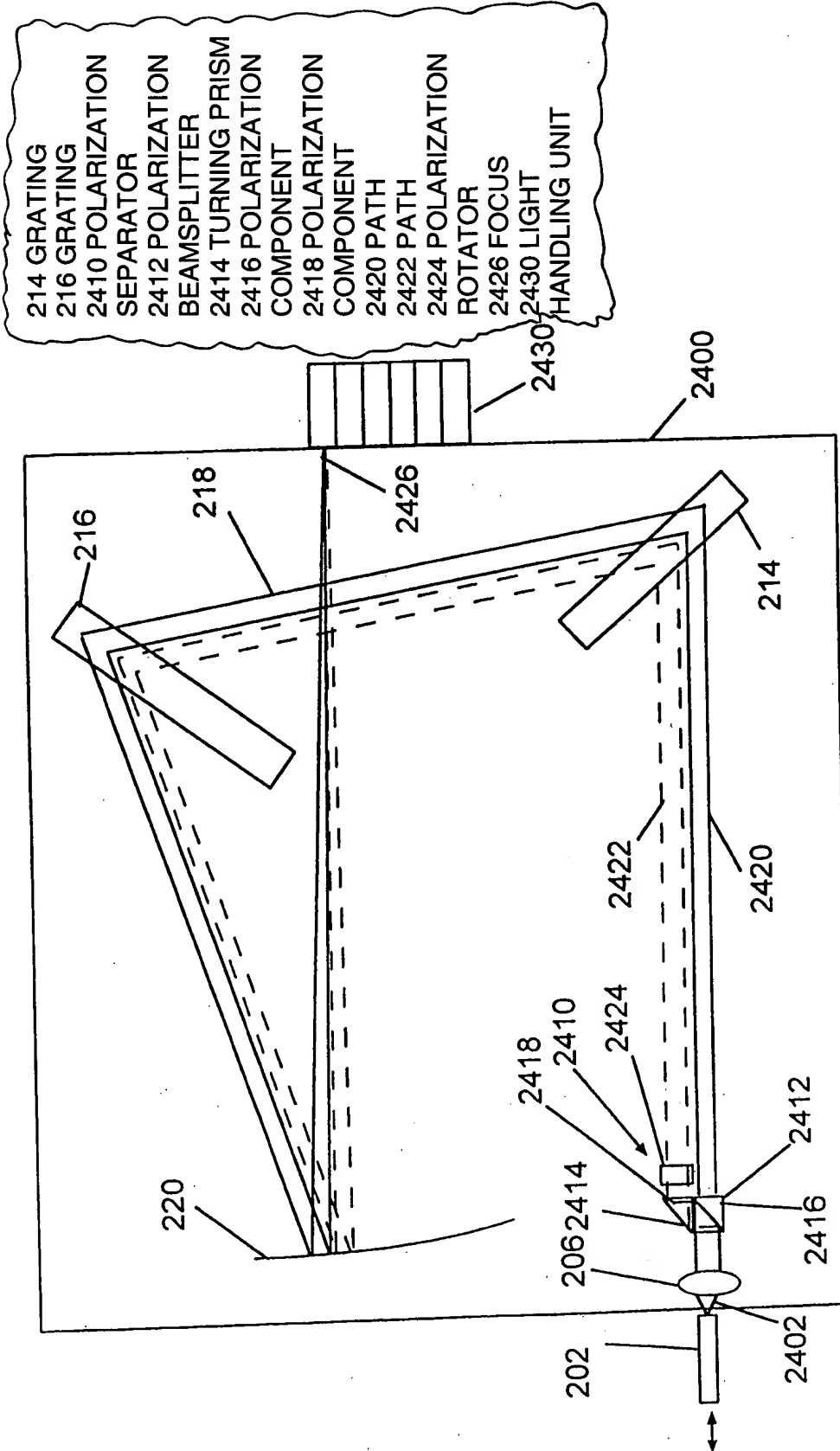


FIG. 24

208 LENS
 210 LENS
 212 BEAM
 214 GRATING
 216 GRATING
 220 MIRROR
 224 LIGHT DISPERSED
 REGION
 2500 HOUSING
 2502 FRAME
 2504 UPPER RAIL
 2506 LOWER RAIL
 2508 SLOT
 2510 MOUNTING
 PLATES
 2512 PLATE
 2514 PLATE
 2516 APERTURE
 2518 PLATE
 2520 ANGLED
 SURFACE
 2522 ANGLED
 SURFACE
 2524 APERTURE
 2526 APERTURE
 2528 PLATE
 2530 APERTURE
 2552 UPPER EDGE
 2554 LOWER EDGE
 2556 APERTURE
 2558 AREA

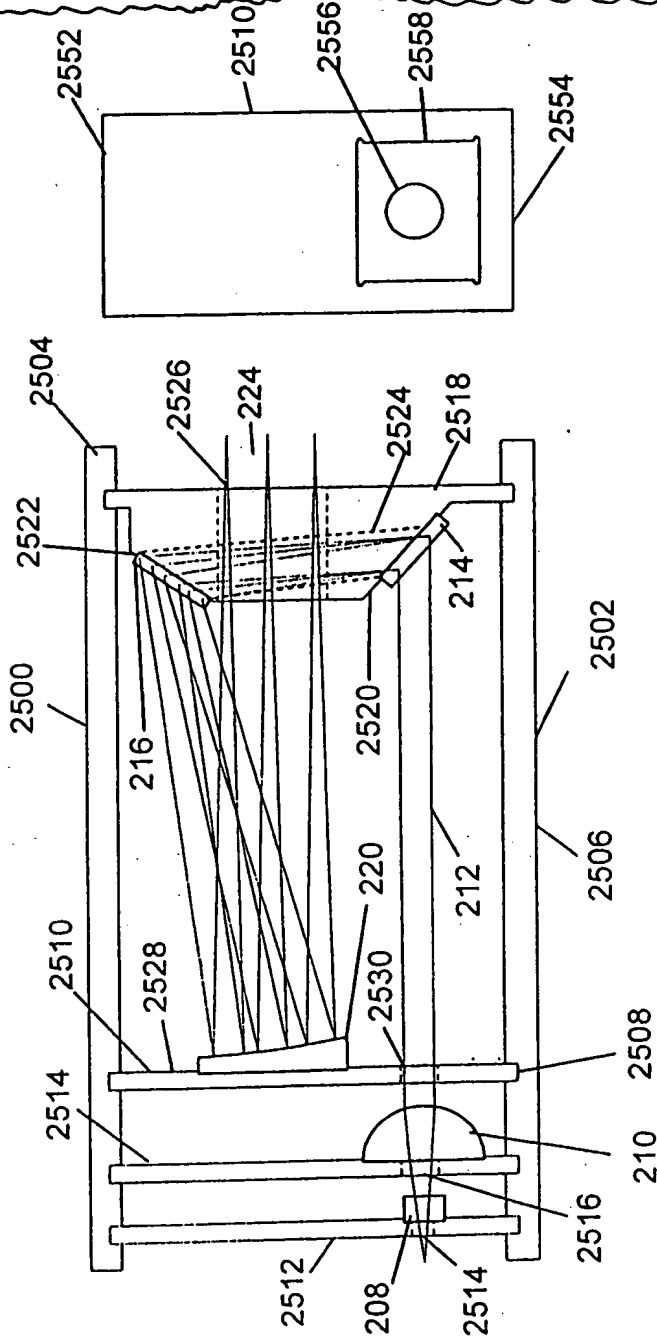


FIG. 25B

FIG. 25A

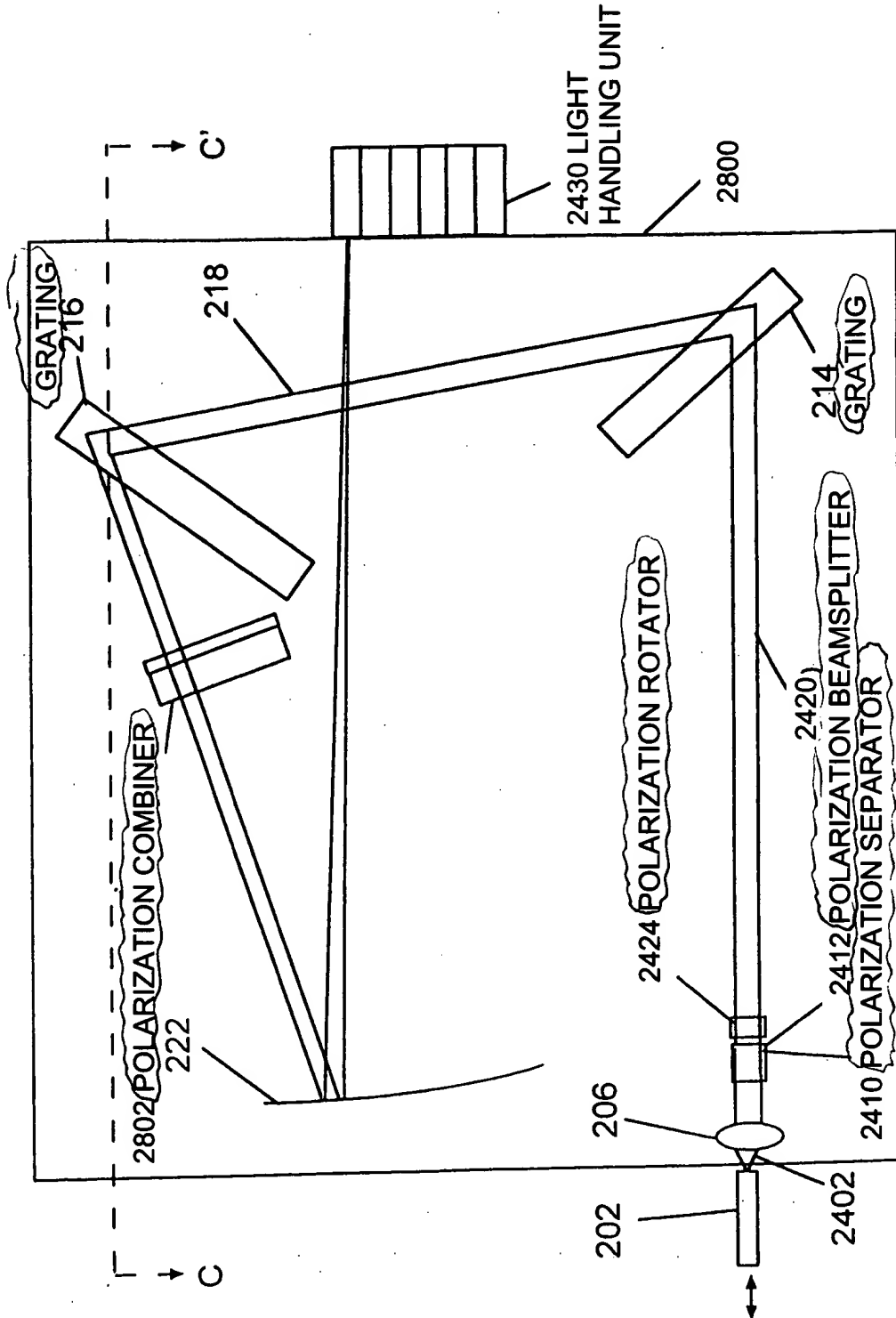


FIG. 28

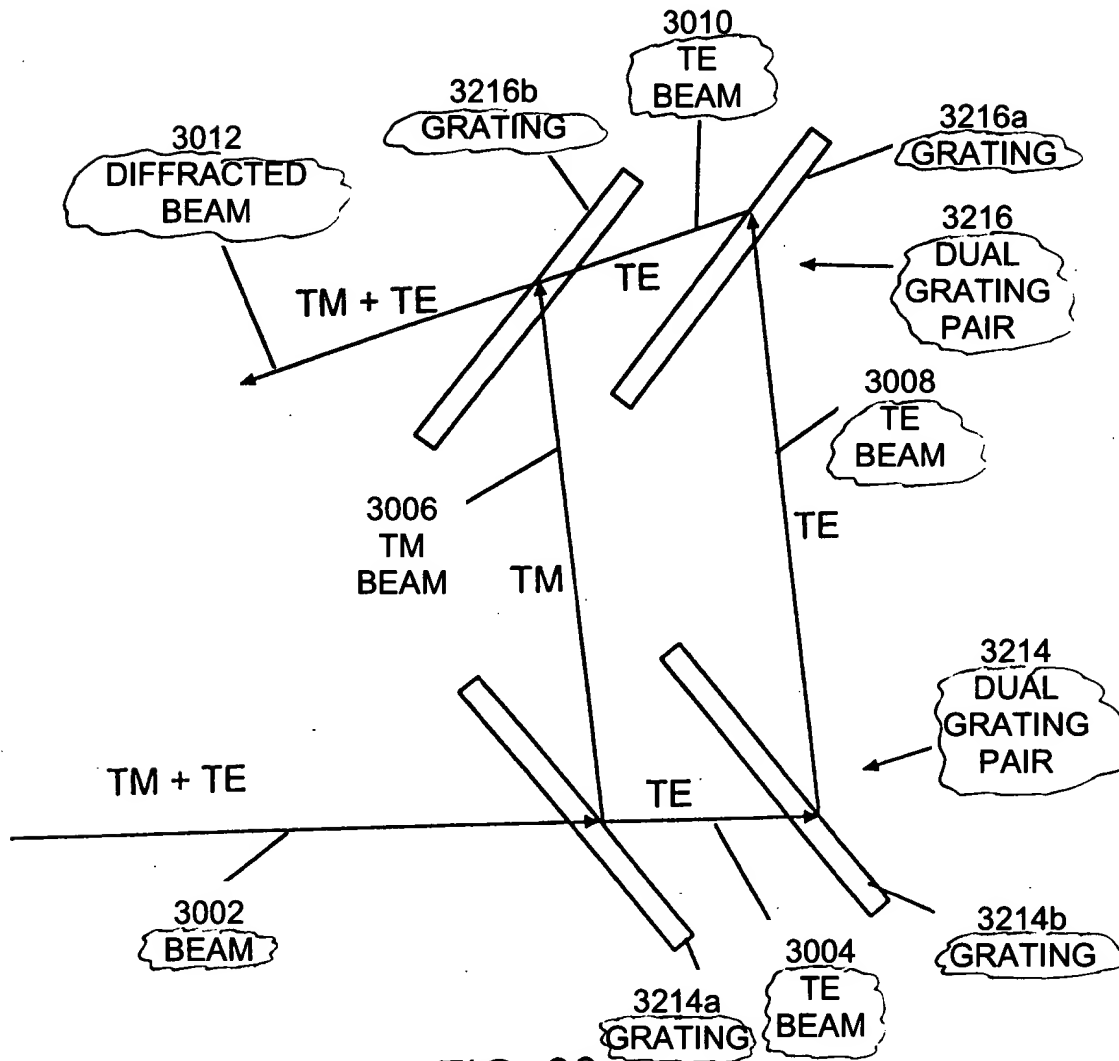


FIG. 30

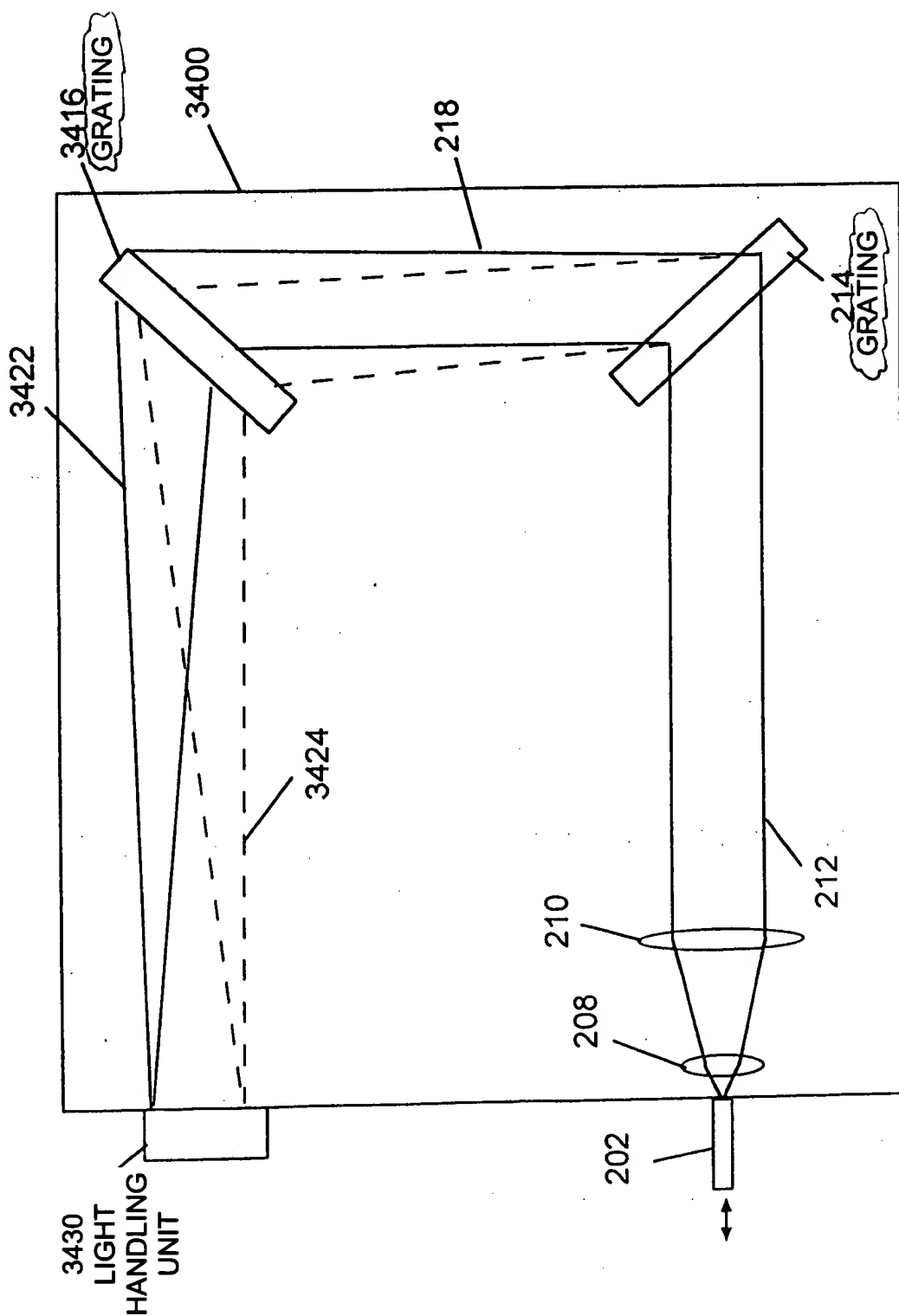


FIG. 34

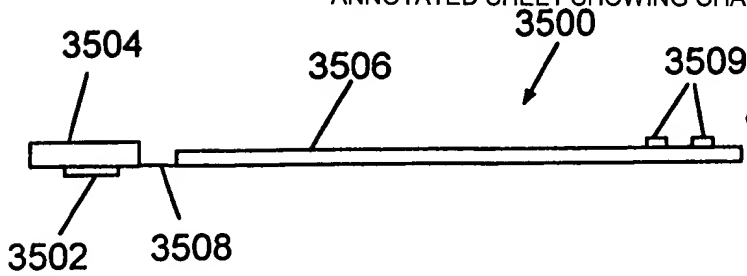


FIG. 35A

- 3500 ELECTRONICS PACKAGE
- 3502 DETECTOR ARRAY
- 3504 SUBSTRATE
- 3506 BOARD
- 3508 FLEXIBLE LINK
- 3509 CONNECTION PAD
- 3510 INTEGRAL FRAME
- 3512 COLLIMATION UNIT
- 3513 FIBER
- 3514 COVER
- 3516 CONDUITS
- 3518 COVER
- 3526 ELECTRONIC CIRCUIT
- 3527 ELECTRONIC CIRCUIT
- 3528 CONNECTOR
- 3529 CONNECTOR
- 3530 LIGHT HANDLING UNIT

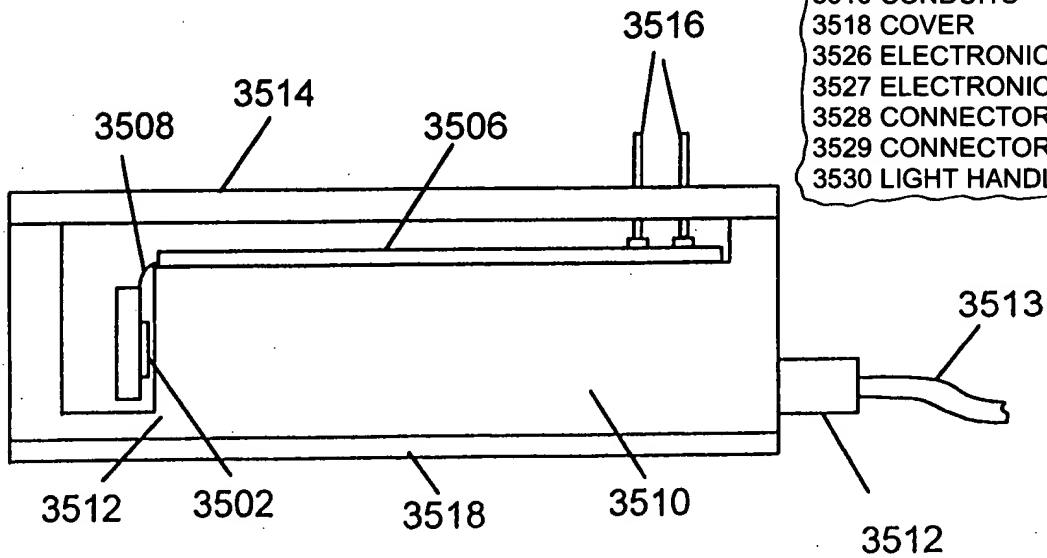


FIG. 35B

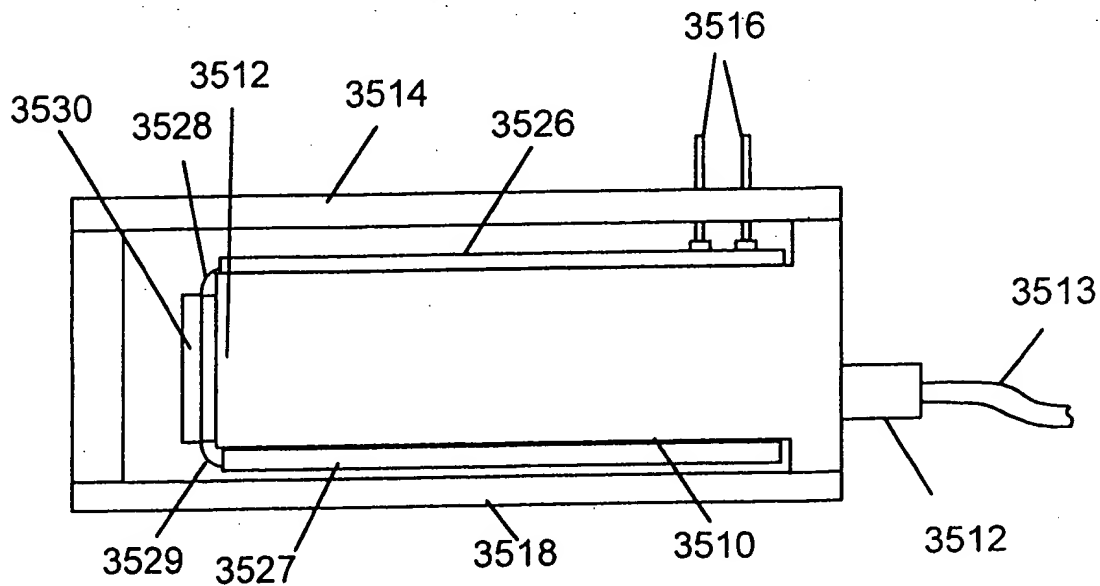


FIG. 35C

